

*His Character, Court, and
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of one of the leading families of the city, He describes himself as being a notary and scribe of the Sacred Palace, formerly the residence of the Lombard dukes, where a count now exercised his administrative office. In 1133, he was made judge (*judex*) of the city by nomination of the Cardinal Girard ratified by Innocent II.: he says modestly of this event "the Falco I speak of is the same as he who writes this little book." From 1134 to 1137 A.D., he was in exile with others of Innocent's party after the revolt of the party of Anacletus in the former year. After his return the facts of his life become obscure and the date of his death is unknown, His *Chronicon* was probably written or at least finished after the death of Roger, whom he speaks of as if no longer alive; the pre-science of events which he displays shows that he wrote the book as a complete whole after the events he describes. The work as we have it begins in 1102 A.D. and ends in 1139 A.D., but its real value begins in 1112 when he abandons the early and scanty annals which he had followed. Often an eye-witness of what he describes, he frequently cites the testimony of those, friends or opponents, who were present; he utilises also,

documents belonging
to, and illustrative of, his period.

Falco is eminently readable and
master of a
genuine, if ambitious, style. His pages
leave the
impression of a personality very human,
interesting,
and likable. His patriotism is
essentially that of
a Beneventan, his interests are
centred in the